

SECRET

24 October 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/SR/PP

SUBJECT : Sponsorship of Visitors to the USSR.

1. The liberalization of travel between the USSR and the USA presents an opportunity to exploit the possibility it offers for the purpose of establishing contacts between the Ukrainian underground and the emigre circles in the West.

2. AECASSOWARY/2 can produce several candidates who could be entrusted by him with such a mission and who would have the possibility of carrying it out successfully because of the fact that they are American-born citizens who have never been in the USSR, and who have relatives in that country whom they could visit without arousing any suspicion of being intelligence agents.

3. As an example of such candidates available for the operation, AECASSOWARY/2 suggested Mr. Andrew Diakun of Buffalo, N.Y. Mr. Diakun served during the war with the American Army in Germany as a lieutenant, and at the present time is a practising attorney in Buffalo.

4. On his recent trip to Canada, AECASSOWARY/2 discussed this subject informally with Mr. Diakun and the latter appears to be willing and interested in undertaking this operation, providing he is supplied with the necessary funds.

5. Should this proposal meet with approval, a further investigation into the matter and clearance of Mr. Diakun could be undertaken immediately.

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